

A great deal has been said to-day in praise of the society; before I sit down I wish to say one word in disparagement of it. It seems a strange thing to do on an occasion of this kind, but I feel bound to do it. I do not think that this society advertises itself as it ought to do. This is a self-advertising age, and it is not a pleasanter age because it is a self-advertising age.

... At the same time it is an age when advertising to a certain extent in a wholesome manner is really necessary, and I do hope that this society in this two-hundredth year of its life will take some measures, if it possibly can, to insist upon the work it does, which is so wonderfully multifarious that it cannot be described even at a meeting of this kind—to insist upon the work being brought very closely home to our people in country as well as in our town parishes. I wish that some system of lectures could be arranged by this society by which in this year of grace 1898, this year when the society is keeping its two hundredth year, there should not be one single parish in this country before which the claims of this society should not be laid.

Mr. Allan Gibbs, M.P.,—

The net result of last year was to lose something like £3,000, that is to say, we spent more than we got by something like £3,000, thereby diminishing our small accumulated funds, and in the last two years and for some time we have continued to diminish our accumulated funds. Now that, you see, cannot go on for ever, and unless the society is to be crippled and to reduce and to diminish the good work that it does we must have liberal subscriptions from you. It rests with you here, and with the people of Great Britain, to determine whether the society is to go on as it has gone on, or whether it is to reduce its good work. This society is a Church of England society, but it belongs to no section. You could not call it a High Church society; you could not call it a Low Church society; it is as wide as the Church of England is wide. And it deserves and ought to get the support of every Churchman in Great Britain.

THE EVENING SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S.

The space under the dome was completely filled by half-past seven, when the choir of nearly a hundred voices, made up from the choirs of St. Peter's, Eaton-square, St. Pancras, and St. John the Divine, Kensington, entered, singing, as a processional, "Onward, Christian soldiers." Following the choristers came about forty clergymen. A special form of service was used. The *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* were sung to Stanford in B flat. Instead of the Second and Third Collects the Collects for the Third Sunday in Advent and for All Saints' Day were substituted. Instead of an anthem the

fine hymn, "God is working His purpose out," was sung. The "five prayers" following the anthem were:—(1) The Prayer for Unity, (2) a prayer for the S.P.C.K., (3) a shortened form of the General Thanksgiving, and the two concluding prayers.

The Dean of Norwich took his text from Psalm lxxii., 16 (A. V.). After an eloquent exposition of these "predictive words," Dr. Lefroy spoke of the special characteristics of the work of the S.P.C.K. This society engaged in national education in the best sense, before even a ray of light as to its need, utility, or blessing dawned on the consciousness of the State. In 1811 its educational advance brought the National Society into existence, which by 1870 had spent over £15,000,000 on the building and maintenance of schools. The amount spent by Churchmen since 1870 made the total hardly less than £40,000,000. Nor was it otherwise in the foreign translation work, which to-day was broadening and widening. Sixty years ago Mr. Gladstone asked the society to consider how it could spiritually help the crowd of emigrants who every year leave our shores. The answer of the S.P.C.K. represented an organization of sympathy. There were chaplains on the voyage, at the ports of departure and arrival, and many a man had blessed God that the society which cared for his soul on the voyage led him by the hand from the hour his feet touched the land of his adoption until he was intrusted to the pastoral care of the clergyman "at the other side." Noting the expansion of other works of the society, the Dean went on: "But of all its phases of work, exception being made for that which must ever possess the supremacy belonging to spiritual toil, it may be doubted if any work surpasses in importance that which stands out in letters of light and of love in the history of the S.P.C.K. I mean the keen moral insight and outlook exhibited in its anxiety to guard the purity of the press. This is the strongest prophylactic possessed by civilization against a relapse to barbarism. This society has transfigured the art of printing by consecrating its noblest powers to the circulation of Christian knowledge. It was the pioneer, in the growing centres of our home life, of the free library movement." Dr. Lefroy concluded with an urgent appeal on behalf of the increasing work of the society.

Acknowledgments.

RECEIPTS AT SYNOD OFFICE, TORONTO,
for Diocese of Algoma for March, 1898.

FOR GENERAL FUND.

Mrs. Sarah Ley, £20; Emsdale, \$1.44; Lower Island W.A., \$5; Grace Church, Ottawa, \$21.32 and \$71; St. George's, Ottawa, \$10; Mrs. Cameron, \$1; Nov2r, \$1.12;

Ilfracombe, 93c.; Ravenscliffe, 93c.; Gravenhurst, \$3.20; Port Arthur W.A., per the Bishop, \$10; Dorset, \$1.66.

For Mission Sustentation Fund.—Baysville, \$1.77; Port Sydney, \$3.16; Bur el, 45c.; Eagle Lake, \$2; South River, \$1.75; A "Well-wisher," first instalment, \$25; Birch Island Indians, \$1.26; Sucker Creek, 81c.; Jocelyn, \$1.45; Richard's Landing, \$1; Miss Allen, £5 10s. 6d.

SPECIAL PURPOSES FUND.

Garden River Parsonage.—Sherbrooke Girls' Friendly Society, \$20.

North Bay Church Debt.—Sherbrooke W.A., \$25.

For Uffington Church or Buildings.—Miss E. Wigram, £6.

For Shingauk.—Toronto, St. Paul's Sunday School, for Frank Day, \$37.50; Parkdale, Epiphany, for Boy, \$9; Toronto, St. Luke's Bible Class, for Ruby May, \$6.25 and \$6.25; Mrs. Phelps, in memoriam late Rev. Robt. Phelps, \$75; Trinity Church, Brockville, Sunday School, \$5.25; Port Dover, St. John's Sunday School, for Boy, \$8; Lachine, St. Paul's W.A., for Elijah Penana, \$8; Niagara Falls Christ Church, and St. Stephen's Memorial Chapel, for David Sissenach, \$12.50; Rothsay, St. Paul's Church Sunday School, \$10.

For S.P.C.K.—Port Sydney, 70c.; Po-wassan, \$1; Parry Sound, \$6; Huntsville, \$3.05; Baysville, \$1.86; Magnetawan, \$1.78; Eagle Lake, \$1; South River, \$1.25; Jocelyn, 75c.; Richard's Land ng, \$1.

For Foreign Missions.—Epiphany Appeal, Ebberstone, 70c.

For Superannuation Fund.—Burk's Falls, 79c.; Broadbent, \$3.20; Dufferin Bridge, \$1.30.

D. KEMP, Treasurer.

Rev. A. H. Allman begs to make grateful acknowledgment of £6, sent by Miss Wigram (Eng.), for church and other buildings.

I beg to acknowledge in the columns of THE ALGOMA MISSIONARY NEWS with great thankfulness the regular and punctual receipt of the (English) *Church Guardian* and *Church Times*. I prize both of these papers very highly. They keep me in touch and sympathy with Church work at home and indeed throughout the world. The subjects of discussion at Church councils and congresses are not only interesting but deeply instructive, while the gems of thought so expressed as to bear on present everyday topics of momentous interest are simply invaluable. I trust the generous owners of these most welcome periodicals will accept my heartfelt thanks.

JAMES BOYDELL.

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